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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

In re the application of:) Group Art Unit: 1625
TANIMOTO)
Serial No. 09/778,747)
Filed: February 08, 2001)
For: **PROCESS FOR PRODUCING ACROLEIN AND ACRYLIC ACID**

AMENDMENT AND REPLY

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Final Office Action having a mailing date of December 31, 2002, with a three month shortened statutory period to respond set to expire on March 31, 2003. Accordingly, a one-month extension of time along with the proper fee is submitted with a Request for Continued Examination ("RCE"). Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

In view of the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the rejections and allow all claims as presently claimed in this application.